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# NWT Labour Force Activity
## - December 2013 -

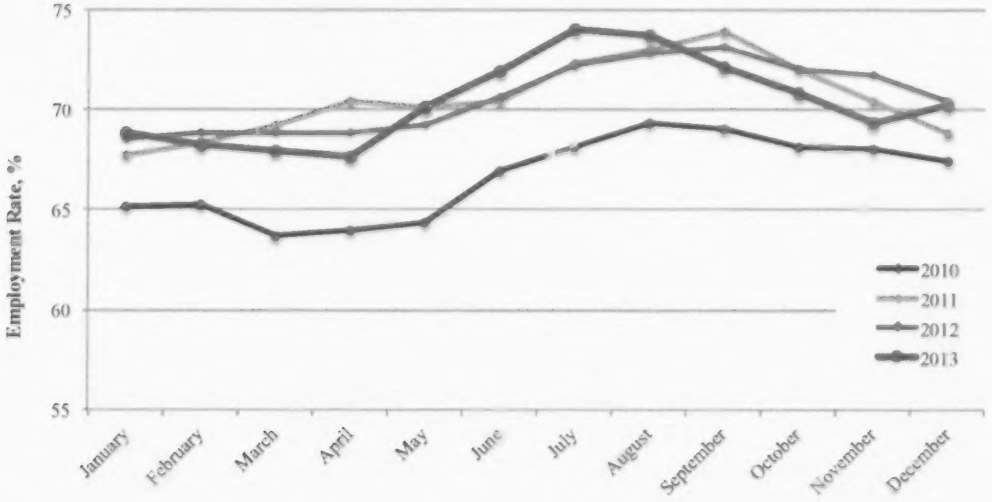
In December 2013, Statistics Canada estimates that 22,400 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories representing an employment rate of 70.2% (Table 1). Nationally, Canada's employment rate stood at 61.7%.

Compared to the previous month, the NWT employment rate increased by 0.9 percentage points, translating into 300 more employed persons. This rise (Figure 1) seems to be somewhat unusual for the month of December, as it is normally considered part of the downward seasonal cycle. Over the last thirteen years, the December employment rate has increased only four times.

***Table 1 Monthly Highlights***
***Northwest Territories, December 2013***

| | Dec-13 | Nov-13 | Dec-12 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Population | 31,900 | 31,900 | 32,100 |
| Labour Force | 24,400 | 24,200 | 24,400 |
| Employed | 22,400 | 22,100 | 22,600 |
| Unemployed | 2,000 | 2,100 | 1,800 |
| Not in Labour Force | 7,600 | 7,700 | 7,700 |
| | | | |
| Participation (%) | 76.5 | 75.9 | 76.0 |
| Employment (%) | 70.2 | 69.3 | 70.4 |
| Unemployment (%) | 8.2 | 8.7 | 7.4 |

***Figure 1 Employment Rates***
***Northwest Territories, 2010-2013***

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All key characteristics experienced either a slight increase or no change to the employment rate last month. Compared to the last month, the employment rate for women increased by 1.3 percentage points, recovering from the 1.9 percentage-point decrease in the previous month. (Table 2)

*Table 2* ***Employment Rates by Key Characteristics Northwest Territories***

| | Dec-13 | | Nov-13 | | Oct-13 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Employed (Persons) | Employment rate (%) | Employed (Persons) | Employment rate (%) | Employed (Persons) | Employment rate (%) |
| Northwest Territories | 22,400 | 70.2 | 22,100 | 69.3 | 22,600 | 70.8 |
| 15-24 Yrs. | 3,100 | 47.7 | 3,100 | 47.7 | 3,300 | 50.8 |
| 25 Yrs. & Over | 19,200 | 75.3 | 19,000 | 74.8 | 19,300 | 76.0 |
| Males | 11,800 | 71.1 | 11,700 | 70.5 | 11,900 | 71.7 |
| Females | 10,600 | 69.3 | 10,400 | 68.0 | 10,700 | 69.9 |
| Aboriginal | 8,100 | 54.7 | 7,900 | 54.1 | 7,800 | 54.5 |
| Non-Aboriginal | 14,300 | 83.1 | 14,200 | 82.1 | 14,800 | 84.1 |
| Yellowknife | 12,700 | 81.9 | 12,700 | 80.9 | 12,900 | 82.2 |
| Other | 9,600 | 58.5 | 9,400 | 57.7 | 9,700 | 59.9 |

Table 3 shows that between December and November, 300 more people were employed, and much of the increase was part-time and public employees. Over the last year, 200 fewer people were employed, partly due to a shift away from public employment into private employment. Between December 2012 and December 2013, public employment decreased by 800 people, whereas private employment increased by 400.

*Table 3* ***Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics Northwest Territories, December 2013***

| | | | | Nov-13 to Dec-13 | Dec-12 to Dec-13 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec-13 | Nov-13 | Dec-12 | Change (persons) | |
| Total Employment | 22,400 | 22,100 | 22,600 | 300 | (200) |
| Full-time | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,300 | - | (300) |
| Part-time | 2,400 | 2,100 | 2,300 | 300 | 100 |
| Employees | 20,800 | 20,500 | 21,100 | 300 | (300) |
| Public | 9,500 | 9,100 | 10,300 | 400 | (800) |
| Private | 11,200 | 11,300 | 10,800 | (100) | 400 |
| Self-employment | 1,600 | 1,700 | 1,500 | (100) | 100 |
| Goods Producing | 3,900 | 3,700 | 3,900 | 200 | - |
| Service Producing | 18,400 | 18,400 | 18,700 | - | (300) |

Table 4 presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

***Table 4*** ***Labour Force Activity***
***Northwest Territories***

| | Population 15 & Over | Labour Force | Employed | Unemployed | Not in the Labour Force | Participation Rate | Unemployment Rate | Employment Rate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dec-13 | 31,900 | 24,400 | 22,400 | 2,000 | 7,600 | 76.5 | 8.2 | 70.2 |
| Nov-13 | 31,900 | 24,200 | 22,100 | 2,100 | 7,700 | 75.9 | 8.7 | 69.3 |
| Oct-13 | 31,900 | 24,600 | 22,600 | 2,000 | 7,300 | 77.1 | 8.1 | 70.8 |
| Sep-13 | 31,900 | 25,100 | 23,000 | 2,100 | 6,800 | 78.7 | 8.4 | 72.1 |
| Aug-13 | 31,900 | 25,500 | 23,500 | 2,000 | 6,400 | 79.9 | 7.8 | 73.7 |
| Jul-13 | 31,900 | 25,500 | 23,600 | 1,900 | 6,400 | 79.9 | 7.5 | 74.0 |
| Jun-13 | 32,000 | 24,800 | 23,000 | 1,800 | 7,200 | 77.5 | 7.3 | 71.9 |
| May-13 | 32,100 | 24,700 | 22,500 | 2,200 | 7,400 | 76.9 | 8.9 | 70.1 |
| Apr-13 | 32,100 | 23,700 | 21,700 | 2,000 | 8,400 | 73.8 | 8.4 | 67.6 |
| Mar-13 | 32,100 | 23,700 | 21,800 | 1,900 | 8,400 | 73.8 | 8.0 | 67.9 |
| Feb-13 | 32,100 | 23,500 | 21,900 | 1,600 | 8,600 | 73.2 | 6.8 | 68.2 |
| Jan-13 | 32,100 | 23,900 | 22,100 | 1,700 | 8,200 | 74.5 | 7.1 | 68.8 |
| Previous Years: | | | | | | | | |
| Dec-12 | 32,100 | 24,400 | 22,600 | 1,800 | 7,700 | 76.0 | 7.4 | 70.4 |
| Dec-11 | 32,100 | 24,000 | 22,100 | 1,900 | 8,100 | 74.8 | 7.9 | 68.8 |
| Dec-10 | 32,200 | 23,600 | 21,700 | 1,800 | 8,700 | 73.3 | 7.6 | 67.4 |
| Dec-09 | 32,100 | 22,000 | 20,700 | 1,300 | 10,100 | 68.5 | 5.9 | 64.5 |
| Dec-08 | 32,100 | 23,500 | 22,200 | 1,200 | 8,600 | 73.2 | 5.1 | 69.2 |
| Dec-07 | 31,900 | 24,100 | 22,700 | 1,400 | 7,800 | 75.5 | 5.8 | 71.2 |
| Dec-06 | 31,400 | 24,300 | 22,800 | 1,500 | 7,100 | 77.4 | 6.2 | 72.6 |
| Dec-05 | 31,300 | 23,600 | 22,400 | 1,200 | 7,700 | 75.4 | 5.1 | 71.6 |
| Dec-04 | 31,100 | 23,600 | 22,200 | 1,400 | 7,400 | 75.9 | 5.9 | 71.4 |
| Dec-03 | 30,700 | 23,000 | 21,400 | 1,600 | 7,600 | 74.9 | 7.0 | 69.7 |

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: February 7, 2014